

Message Text

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TO AMEMBASSY KATHMANDU

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FOLLOWING NEW DELHI 14827 ACTION SECSTATE INFO GENEVA
DEC 17TH.

QUOTE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE NEW DELHI 14827

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SNAR IN

SUBJ: NARCOTICS: CONSULTATION WITH INDIA ON CND AGENDA

1. WELLMAN, ACCOMPANIED BY EMBOFF WARREN, HAD TWO HOUR MEETING
DECEMBER 13 WITH JASJIT SINGH (CHARIMAN CENTRAL BOARD OF EXCISE AND
CUSTOMS) WHO HEADED ASIAN GROUP CONSISTING OF JOINT SECRETARY
KRISHNAN OF MEA AND FINANCE MINISTRY OFFICIALS. INDIAN VIEWS ON
AGENDA ITEM ON WORLD SUPPLIES AND REQUIREMENTS OF OPIUM FOR
MEDICAL AND SCIENTIFIC PURPOSES ARE REPORTED IN SEPARATE
TELEGRAM. SUMMARY OF INDIAN VIEWS ON OTHER AGENCA ITEMS FOLLOWS:

2. AD HOC COMMITTEE ON ILLICIT TRAFFIC IN FAR EAST: INDIANS
REVIEWED THEIR POSITION AS STATED AT 25TH CND MEETING, NAMELY
THAT THEY OPPOSE ESTABLISHMENT OF A SUBCOMMISSION IN A
HETEROGENOUS REGION SUCH AS SOUTH AND EAST ASIA WITH DIFFERING
PROBLEMS FOR EACH COUNTRY. THEY WOULD ALSO BE RELUCTANT TO APPROVE
FORMALIZED ANNUAL MEETING OF C*IEFS OF ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES WITH
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THE UN SECRETARIAT PROVIDING SERVICES AND DOCUMENTATION AT

CONSIDERABLE EXPENSE. THEY WOULD SUPPORT MEETINGS OF ENFORCEMENT OFFICIALS AT THE OPERATIONAL LEVEL ON AN AD HOC BASIS, FOR THE REGION AS A WHOLE, SUBREGIONS OR BILATERALLY AS BEST SUITED THE SITUATION. THEY FAVORED A FREE EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION DIRECTLY AMONG ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS WITHOUT THE REQUIREMENT FOR USE OF DIPLOMATIC CHANNELS. THE MEA REPRESENTATIVE SUPPORTED THESE VIEWS.

3. DRUG TRAFFIC: INDIANS SAY THEY HAVE NO PROBLEM WITH USE OF COCAINE BY INDIANS. THEIR CHIEF CONCERN IS FLOW OF HASHISH (GANJA) FROM NEPAL. AS RESULT OF COOPERATIVE MEASURES WITH THE NEPALESE GOVERNMENT, THE SUPPLY OF GANJA IS BEING REDUCED. INDIANS AGREED THAT LIQUID HASHISH IS A POTENT AND DANGEROUS ADDITION TO TRAFFIC AND WOULD SUPPORT A CND RESOLUTION ISSUING A WARNING ON THIS. JASJIT SINGH VOICED CONCERN AT SECTIONS OF 1972 WORLD OPIUM SURVEY WHICH DEALT WITH DIVERSION OF INDIAN OPIUM INTO ILLICIT CHANNELS, SAYING THAT THIS REPORT EXAGGERATED THE PROBLEM. SINGH SHARPLY ATTACKED CODEL FREY REPORT BUT DID NOT HOLD EMBASSY OR USG RESPONSIBLE FOR ITS INACCURACIES. SINGH AND NARCOTICS COMMISSIONER SONALKAR ACKNOWLEDGED THERE WAS SOME DIVERSION OF OPIUM INSIDE INDIA, BUT BELIEVED THERE WAS EVIDENCE OF "VERY LITTLE LEAKAGE" OF INDIAN OPIUM INTO ILLICIT INTERNATIONAL MARKETS. U.S. REPS INDICATED U.S. HAD NO EVIDENCE TO CONTRARY, BUT BOTH PARTIES ACKNOWLEDGED POTENTIAL DANGER OF DIVERSION.

4. DRUG ABUSE: U.S. REP REVIEWED BACKGROUND OF U.S. SUPPORT OF CND RESOLUTION INVITING WHO ASSISTANCE IN PREPARING TIMELY REPORTS ON EPIDEMOLOGICAL PATTERNS OF DRUG ABUSE. ALSO INDICATED U.S. HEALTH REPRESENTATIVES CONSIDERING RAISING QUESTION OF COUNTRY CAPABILITIES TO DETERMINE ABUSE POTENTIAL OF DRUGS, ESPECIALLY PSYCHOTROPIC SUBSTANCES, PARTLY WITH VIEW TO REDUCING DOUBTS ABOUT PSYCHOTROPICS CONVENTION AND POSSIBLY PROMOTING ITS RATIFICATION. INDIANS REACTED FAVORABLY TO BOTH THESE IDEAS.

5.) REVISED FORM FOR ANNUAL REPORTS: INDIANS HAD COMMENTED TO UN SECRETARIAT ON FIRST DRAFT AND WERE INTERESTED IN REPORT U. S. REP GAVE THEM OF U.S. EXPERTS' VIEW ON STATUS OF REVISION. THEY WERE ALSO CRITICAL OF BUREAUCRATIC APPROACH TO THIS PROBLEM BY DIVISION OF NARCOTIC DRUGS.

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6. UNFDAC OPERATIONS: INDIANS EXPECTED ACCOUNTING FROM FUND AT CND MEETING OF ITS OPERATIONS AND THEIR EFFECTIVENESS. THEY OPPOSED BUREAUCRATIC EXPANSION OF STAFF AND BELIEVED STAFF ADDITIONS SHOULD BE DIRECTLY RELATED TO EXECUTION OF PROGRAMS. THEY FAVORED MORE ATTENTION BY FUND TO ACTIVITIES DEALING WITH DEMAND SIDE OF DRUG QUESTION. WHILE RECOGNIZING FUND COULD NOT BE AUTHENTICALLY INTERNATIONAL IF ONE MAJOR COUNTRY (U.S.) CONTINUED TO PROVIDE 80 PERCENT OF CONTRIBUTIONS, THEY

CONTENTED INDIA'S FINANCIAL SITUATION PRECLUDED ANY INDIAN CONTRIBUTION EXCEPT EXPERT ASSISTANCE WHICH INDIA HAD OFFERED WITHOUT ANY RESPONSE FROM FUND.

7. TREATIES: INDIANS ARE FAR ALONG ON PROCESS OF RATIFICATION OF PSYCHOTROPICS CONVENTION TO WHICH THEY ATTACH HIGH PRIORITY (FOR EXAMPLE THEY BELIEVE PSYCHOTROPICS CONVENTION SHOULD HAVE BEEN SPECIFIC AGENAD ITEM FOR SPECIAL CND SESSION). THEY ATTACH LOWER PRIORITY TO RATIFICATION OF AMENDING PROTOCOL IN VIEW OF THEIR BEING APRTIES TO SINGLE CONVENTION AND 1953 PROTOCOL. THEY BELIEVE AMENDING PROTOCOL WILL ACCOMPLISH LITTLE EXCEPT TO IMPOSE ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS AND MAINLY ON INDIA. U.S. REP URGED INDIA TO JOIN WITH U.S. IN EXERTING LEADERSHIP FOR EARLY RATIFICATION OF BOTH AGREEMENTS AS BEST WAY TO BRING EACH INTO EFFECT.

8. PERIODICITY OF SESSIONS: INDIA'S REPS INDICATED SYMPATHY WITH ARGUMENT THAT FUNCTIONS OF CND UNDER TREATIES REQUIRE ANNUAL SESSIONS. ON OTHER HAND GOI ALSO SUPPORTS UN DECISION THAT UN COMMISSIONS SHOULD MEET BIANNUALLY AND LIKE U.S. HAS DIFFICULTY IN JUSTIFYING EXCEPTION FOR CND. INDIAN REPS EXPRESSED CONFIDENCE THAT SOME FORMULA LIKE THAT PROPOSED BY U.S. COULD BE FOUND ON WHICH THERE COULD BE GENERAL AGREEMENT.

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